

Borough of Shrewsbury



REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR  
1940

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A. D. SYMONS, M.D., D.P.H.

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.	{	†A. D. SYMONS, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer.		
Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.		
Medical Superintendent of Small- pox and Isolation Hospitals.		

Assistant Medical Officer of Health :

KATHLEEN M. BALI, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors :

{	§†*NORMAN HANCOCK, M.S.I.A.
	§†*L. N. GREGORY.
	§†I. G. GRIFFITHS (on Military Service).

Housing Inspector :

Vacant.

Temporary Assistant Sanitary  
Inspector :

T. H. FARRELL  
(Appointed 15/4/40.  
Resigned 7/12/40.)

Health Visitors :

{	†Miss W. KYD-AITKEN, C.M.B.
	†Miss M. E. OWEN, C.M.B.
	(Resigned 10/12/40.)

Health Visitor and School Nurse :

†Miss E. L. HUGHES, C.M.B.

School Nurse :

†Miss M. WILLIAMS.

Matron of Isolation Hospital :  
Chief Clerk and Laboratory  
Assistant :

Miss A. K. ELLIS.

†G. NICHOLAS.

Assistant Clerks :

{	†Miss F. C. PUDDLE.	{	Now on Military Service
	C. T. MABBOTT.		
	†K. G. ROBERTSON.		
	R. MULLARD.		
	Miss B. IRVING.		

Abattoir Superintendent and  
Meat Inspector :

\*FRANK FARRELL  
(Died 27/9/40).  
§\*S. R. REED  
(Appointed 4/11/40).

## PART-TIME OFFICERS.

<b>Medical Officer of Ante-Natal Clinic, Obstetric Consultant and Consultant for Puer- peral Pyrexia, etc.</b>	}	A. SIMPSON, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.
<b>Dental Officer Maternity and Child Welfare :</b>		C. LYTH HUDSON, L.D.S.
<b>Sampling Officer :</b>		W. C. HEAS.
<b>Meteorological Observer :</b>		H. A. HOWE.
<b>Public Analyst :</b>		HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.I.C.

\*Qualified Meat Inspectors.

†Contribution towards salary made under Public Health Acts or by  
Exchequer grants.

§Qualified Sanitary Inspectors.

HEALTH CENTRE,  
MURIVANCE,  
SHREWSBURY.  
*July, 1941.*

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Shrewsbury.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1940.

In the interests of economy the Report is brief, and attached to it, also in the interests of economy, to avoid a separate publication, is my Annual Report as School Medical Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. SYMONS.

## GENERAL STATISTICS, 1940

Rateable value of the Borough	...	...	...	£299,290
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£1,167
Area of the Borough (excluding water) in acres	...			8,034
Population (Registrar General's estimate middle of 1940)	...	...	...	42,070
Persons per acre calculated on above population				5.2
Inhabited houses (December 31st, 1940)	...	...		11,454

	MALE.		FEMALE.			
Live Births	{	Legitimate	342	323	}	Total
		Illegitimate	24	17		
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population						16.4
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	15
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total Births				...	...	21.2
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	590
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population				...	...	14.0
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...		1
„ „ Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...		1
MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 Total Births (live and still)	...	...	...	...		2.8
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	...	...	...	...		44
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	44
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	49
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...		68
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...		0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...		0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...		0

### WEATHER CONDITIONS.

The Climatological Station, which is recognised and approved by the Air Ministry, is situated at Monkmoor Isolation Hospital.

**Rainfall.** The total rainfall was 32.12 inches, compared with 29.01 and 23.78 inches in the previous years respectively.

**Sunshine.** The number of hours of bright sunshine recorded was 1439.4, compared with 1294.6 and 1306.2 in the previous years respectively.

**Temperatures.** Extremes of temperature during the year were as follows :—

<b>Warmest Day</b> (Highest Maximum)	June 8th and 9th	85°
<b>Warmest Night</b> (Highest Minimum)	August 9th	59°
<b>Coldest Day</b> (Lowest Maximum)	January 20th	23°
<b>Coldest Night</b> (Lowest Minimum)	Jan. 21st and 22nd	0° (Zero)

A monthly summary of the readings is set out in the following table.

# Weather Statistics. Shrewsbury, 1940

1940 Month	Barometric Pressure in Inches	AIR TEMPERATURE IN SHADE °F				Hottest Day in Sun	SUNSHINE IN HOURS			RAINFALL IN INCHES			
		Mean Maximum	Highest Maximum and Date	Mean Minimum	Lowest Minimum and Date		Mean Temperatures	Most Sunshine in one Day	Daily Means	Total Hours	No. of Rainy Days	Greatest fall in one Day	Total Rainfall
Jan.	30.124	35.1	50° on 7th	21.6	0° on 21st and 22nd	28.3	73° on 8th	5.9 on 17th	1.36	42.0	8	1.27 on 26th	2.80
Feb.	29.857	43.6	56° on 27th	31.4	17° on 13th	37.5	83° on 24th	4.9 on 5th	1.00	29.0	15	0.72 on 18th	2.53
March	29.901	55.0	61° on 18th	35.0	20° on 7th	47.5	115° on 18th	10.9 on 28th	3.48	107.7	18	0.41 on 13th	2.10
April	29.907	55.6	67° on 27th	39.5	25° on 18th	47.6	114° on 27th	11.7 on 16th	3.66	109.7	21	0.71 on 27th	3.75
May	30.031	64.0	71° on 5th	44.4	35° on 7th and 20th	54.2	112° on 14th	14.2 on 18th	5.93	183.8	14	0.82 on 15th	2.78
June	30.092	72.2	85° on 8th and 9th	49.7	43° on 14th	61.0	126° on 9th	15.0 on 5th	9.34	280.1	9	0.65 on 21st	1.99
July	29.998	67.5	76° on 1st	50.1	41° on 29th	58.8	125° on 1st	11.3 on 29th	6.02	186.6	20	0.56 on 10th	2.62
August	30.162	69.0	80° on 17th and 31st	51.5	38° on 28th	60.3	121° on 17th	12.1 on 2nd	5.11	158.5	6	0.07 on 10th	0.19
Sept.	29.972	64.0	82° on 4th	46.3	35° on 22nd	55.1	119° on 4th	11.2 on 4th	5.80	174.0	14	0.41 on 18th	1.73
October	29.865	55.2	63° on 6th	41.8	27° on 12th and 28th	48.5	95° on 7th	8.3 on 7th	2.23	69.0	18	0.95 on 31st	3.11
Nov.	29.421	49.8	58° on 2nd and 20th	39.0	23° on 30th	44.4	81° on 22nd	7.0 on 22nd	2.12	63.5	21	1.21 on 21st	7.12
Dec.	30.139	44.7	55° on 16th	34.0	24° on 13th	39.3	71° on 7th	5.6 on 19th	1.15	35.5	22	0.22 on 9th	1.40
										1439.4	186		32.12

# VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1940 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

YEAR.	Population (estimated) each year.		BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT				
			Un- corrected Number	Nett						Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages		
	Birth Rate	Death Rate		Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate					
										Crude	Adjusted			
1930	33000	32530	579	538	16.3	412	12.9	131	87	42	78	368	11.3	8.8
1931	32680	32100	566	501	15.3	488	15.2	169	93	30	60	412	12.8	12.2
1932		32990	539	481	14.5	439	13.3	143	88	22	45	384	11.6	11.1
1933		33220	572	408	14.9	462	13.9	162	105	22	44	405	12.2	11.7
1934		36316	536	467	12.8	572	15.7	209	96	35	75	459	12.6	11.9
1935		37500	542	519	13.8	545	14.5	223	67	16	31	389	10.4	9.7
1936		37490	564	564	15.0	590	15.7	211	109	26	46	438	13.0	12.3
1937		38120	535	587	15.4	599	15.7	213	104	24	41	490	12.8	12.1
1938		38480	489	587	15.2	608	15.8	232	118	22	37	494	12.8	12.1
1939	39270	40260	531	582	14.7	619	15.4	222	118	33	57	515	12.8	12.2
1940	42070		725	706	16.4	798	18.9	312	104	31	44	590	14.0	14.1

### POPULATION.

The Registrar General's estimate of the civil population of Shrewsbury at the middle of 1940 was 42,070, which is the highest population so far recorded for Shrewsbury.

### BIRTHS.

There were 706 live births compared with 582 and 587 in the two previous years respectively.

The birth rate for 1940 was 16.4 compared with 14.7 and 15.2 in the previous years respectively.

The birth rates elsewhere as compared with Shrewsbury were as follows.

				BIRTH RATES	
				per 1,000 Population.	
				Live Births.	Stillbirths.
England and Wales	...	...	...	14.6	0.55
London	...	...	...	13.7	0.44
126 Great Towns	...	...	...	16.0	0.64
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	...	15.7	0.55
SHREWSBURY	...	...	...	16.4	0.35

The 706 live births may be analysed as follows :—

		Legitimate.	Illegitimate.		
Male	...	342	24	}	706
Female	...	323	17		

### Illegitimate Births.

There were 41 illegitimate births compared with 25 and 30 in the previous years respectively.

The illegitimate birth rate was 0.97 per 1,000 population, the illegitimate births being a percentage of 5.8 of the total live births.

**Stillbirths.**

There were 15 stillbirths compared with 31 and 24 in the two previous years respectively.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 total population was 0.35, the stillbirths being a percentage of 2.08 of the total births.

**DEATHS.**

The total number of deaths during the year was 590, compared with 515 and 494 in the previous years respectively.

Of the 590 deaths, 302 were males and 288 were females.

The crude death rate was 14.0 per 1,000 population, compared with 12.8 in the three previous years respectively.

## Causes of and Ages at Death during the Year 1940

CAUSES OF DEATH	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT													
	Male	Female	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over
	302	288	31	7	2	5	3	5	6	4	21	36	144	326
Typhoid & para-typhoid fevers ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	4	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	6	—
Other forms of tuberculosis ...	2	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
Syphilitic diseases ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Influenza ...	6	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	11
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute polio-myelitis & polio-encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cancer ...	40	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	28	35
Diabetes ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5
Intra-cran : vasc : lesions ...	24	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	15	45
Heart disease ...	78	86	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	2	2	36	120
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	4
Bronchitis ...	27	22	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	11	32
Pneumonia ...	10	13	7	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	4
Other respiratory diseases ...	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ...	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	—
Other digestive diseases ...	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	8
Nephritis ...	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	9
Puerperal sepsis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Premature birth ...	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infant : dis. ...	11	5	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Road traffic accidents	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5
Other violent causes	7	10	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	3	7
All other causes ...	35	31	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	4	8	12	37

### INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of Infants under one year of age was 31, compared with 33, 22 and 24 in the three previous years respectively.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 44 per 1,000 live births, compared with a rate of 57 in the previous year.

The accompanying table shows the causes of death and the ages at death of Infants under one year.

### INFANT MORTALITY—1940.

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH			Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital Causes	No.											
	10	Prematurity ...	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	3
		Congenital Malformation ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
		Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
		Asphyxia Livida ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
		Congenital Pyloric Stenosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Respiratory	9	Congenital Debility ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
		Melaena Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
		Broncho Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	3	7
Miscellaneous	7	Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
		Marasmus ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
		Convulsions ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
		Birth Injury ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-Intestinal	3	Suffocation ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
		Intestinal Obstruction ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
		Peritonitis ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Infectious	2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
		Streptococcal Septicaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	31		8	1	2	2	13	5	6	3	4	31

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.**

### **Laboratory Facilities.**

Local facilities remain as stated in last year's Report.

The establishment of an Emergency Public Health Laboratory by the Medical Research Council at Wrekin College, Wellington, to assist Local Authorities in case of outbreaks of disease arising as a result of an influx of evacuees or military personnel has been of great assistance.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

No alteration as regards normal civil requirements. Ambulances to the number of 16 are provided for use in Shrewsbury as part of the Air Raid Precaution Services.

### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

The need for a treatment centre to deal with Scabies which has been imported into the town is under consideration.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

The Water Engineer, Mr. W. A. Hewitt, has kindly supplied the following notes and a summary of bacteriological and chemical examinations carried out during the year in respect of Shelton and Conduit waters.

**" River Severn Supply, Shelton.** From the annexed table which summarizes the results of all examinations made at the Shelton Laboratory throughout 1940, and from the separate table of examinations at the Birmingham University Laboratory, it will be seen that the excellent results obtained since the inception of the Shelton Scheme in 1935 have been fully maintained.

**Conduit Water Supply.** The application of a very slight precautionary chlorine treatment of the conduit water was continued throughout the year."

# SHELTON WATER SUPPLY.

## Summary of examinations at Shelton during 1940.

ITEM	CRUDE RIVER WATER			AFTER STORAGE AND PRECIPITATION			AFTER FILTRATION			FILTERED AND CHLORINATED		
	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average
BACTERIOLOGICAL												
Colony count of bacteria per c.c. at 37° C.	2,300	8	207	17	0	3	3	0	—	2	0	—
Colony count of bacteria per c.c. at 20° C.	32,000	150	5,383	1,233	1	81	1,840	1	133	10	0	1
B. Coli (present or absent)	present in 100c.c.	present in 1c.c.	present in 1c.c.	present in 1c.c.	absent in 100c.c.	absent in —	present in 10c.c.	absent in 100c.c.	absent in —	absent in 100c.c.	absent in 100c.c.	absent in 100c.c.
Chemical (parts per 100,000)												
Colour (Hazen)	79.8	13.0	31.1	33.6	3.3	7.1	15.1	3.3	6.7	15.1	3.3	6.7
Turbidity (p.p.m. silica)	600.0	2.7	33.8	146.0	1.4	8.9	3.1	0.05	0.22	3.1	0.05	0.22
pH (hydrogen-ion value)	8.8	6.7	7.5	7.8	5.6	7.0	7.8	5.4	7.0	7.8	6.4	7.1
Alkalinity (Ca Co3)	11.3	0.9	6.1	10.2	0.3	5.2	10.2	0.2	5.1	10.2	1.4	5.5
Chlorides (Cl)	5.97	0.80	2.48	5.80	0.95	2.53	5.82	0.96	2.54	5.85	1.00	2.57
Free ammonia	0.0296	Trace	0.0047	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0200	Trace	0.0070
Oxygen absorbed (3 hours at 37° C.)	1.150	0.092	0.254	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.156	0.048	0.076
Total hardness	14.6	2.5	8.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Hardness	4.8	1.6	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Residual Chlorine (p.p.m.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.20	Nil	0.14

Samples of Shelton and Conduit water were sent to the Birmingham University Laboratories for bacteriological examination.

The results are set out in the following tables.

### Shelton Water.

Source of Sample	Date	Colony Count of Bacteria per c.c. at		Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes Test	Remarks
		37°C.	20°C.		
Tap at Health Centre ...	March	1	1	Absent from 100 c.c.	Streptococci are absent from 50 c.c. and the Spores of B. Welchii from 100 c.c.
Ditto ...	June	4	5	Ditto	Ditto
Ditto ...	Oct.	10	7	Ditto	Ditto
Ditto ...	Dec.	10	12	Ditto	Ditto

### Conduit Water.

Source of Sample	Date	Colony Count of Bacteria per c.c. at		Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes Test	Remarks
		37°C.	20°C.		
Conduit Pillar, Murivance	March	0	290	Absent from 100 c.c.	Streptococci absent from 50 c.c. and the Spores of B. Welchii from 100 c.c.
Ditto ...	Oct.	967	1497	Ditto	Ditto
Ditto ...	Dec.	0	1	Ditto	Ditto



Inspection of Elementary Schools (Sanitary Survey)	...	23
„ of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	... ..	65
„ and visits in connection with Shops Acts	...	76
„ of offices	... ..	20
„ of yards, courts and passages	... ..	25
Observations and visits in connection with Smoke Abatement		29
Other visits unclassified, interviews, no access, miscellaneous, general purpose visits	... ..	1117
Visits made for administration of Council houses (see Report of Housing Inspector)	... ..	1932
		<hr/>
	Total	9106
		<hr/> <hr/>

As a result of these Inspections the following administrative action was taken.

(1) Statutory Notices served	Nil affecting.	Nil premises.
(2) Informal Notices served	161 „	268 „
(3) Letters sent	27 „	27 „
(4) Verbal suggestions	49 „	55 „
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total 237 notices.	350 premises.
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

There were 20 notices outstanding at the end of the year, affecting 20 premises.

(5) Prosecutions ... Nil.

The number of complaints received and dealt with during the year was 331.

#### **Details of Sanitary Improvements effected as a result of Inspections made and Notices issued.**

##### **Dwelling-houses.** (Number affected 130).

Roofs repaired and made weatherproof	... ..	45
Rainwater gutters repaired or renewed	... ..	51
„ downspouts repaired or renewed	... ..	20
External walls repaired	... ..	27

Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Wall plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	52
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	30
Fire ranges and fire grates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	32
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	56
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Stairs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inadequate lighting improved	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	3
Deficient water supply remedied	...	...	...	...	...	19
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	11
Sinks renewed or provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Washing accommodation provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
Paving of yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22

**Water Closets.** (Number affected 51).

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Basins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	23
Connections repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	...	18
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Seats repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Proper water supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	9
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	6

**Drainage.**

New drains constructed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Existing drains reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	18
Drains disconnected from sewer	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	14
Drains ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	6
Choked drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	46

**Storage of Refuse.**

Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	8
Defective dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	27
Dustbins provided on absence of proper refuse receptacles					20
Accumulations of manure removed or controlled	...				5

**Miscellaneous.**

Other matters remedied	...	...	...	...	...	25
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**SANITARY INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS  
and WORKPLACES.**

**1. Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, etc.**

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries) ...	152	Nil.	Nil.
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries) ... ..	54	Nil.	Nil.
WORKPLACES ... ..	6	Nil.	Nil.
Total	212	Nil.	Nil.

**2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of Prosecutions
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of Ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation { insufficient ...	2	2	—	—
{ unsuitable or ...	7	7	—	—
{ defective ...	—	—	—	—
{ not separate for ...	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouse (Sec. 101) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary requirements for Bake- houses (Secs. 97—100) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Offences ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total ..	9	9	—	—

### 3. Home Work.

#### OUTWORKERS' LISTS, Sec. 107.

NATURE OF WORK	Lists (Sent twice a year)	Outworkers	
		Contrac- tors	Work- men
Wearing apparel :—			
(1) Making ... ..	3	1	3
(2) Cleaning and washing ...	—	—	—
Nets other than wire nets ...	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ...	1	—	1
Total ...	4	1	4

There were no infringements of the Acts.

#### 4. The Registered Workshops in the District are as follows :—

Bakehouses ... ..	23	Motor and Cycle Repairs	40
Boot repairs ... ..	20	Plumbers ... ..	8
Painters ... ..	11	Blacksmiths ... ..	9
Cabinet Makets, Carpen- ters, Builders ... ..	29	Tailors ... ..	14
Dressmakers ... ..	16	Sundry Trades ... ..	85

### 5. Other Matters.

Class	Number
Matters Notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories ... ..	Nil.
Failure to fix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (Sec. 133) ... ..	Nil.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. In- spector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (Sec. 5)	2
Notified by H.M. Inspector	
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	2
Underground Bakehouses (Sec. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	Nil.
In use at the end of the year ... ..	Nil.

## PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

### Common Lodging Houses.

There are 2 Common Lodging Houses and a Municipal Hostel for Men.

### Offensive Trades.

The number and type of offensive trades carried on in the Borough are as follows:—

Fried Fish Shops	...	20	Fellmongers	...	...	2
Rag and Bone Dealers		3	Tanners	...	...	2
Tripe Boilers and Gut			Curriers and Leather			
Scrapers	...	...	Dressers	...	...	1
Soap Boiler	...	...				
		1				

### Cowkeepers and Milksellers.

The number of Cowkeepers and Milk retailers registered in the Borough is 120.

Premises at which cows are kept, milk being sold wholesale	...	...	...	...	...	14
Premises at which cows are kept and from which milk is retailed	...	...	...	...	...	27
Premises from which milk is retailed	...	...				*43
Milk retailers whose premises are outside the Borough and retail in the Borough	...					36
*This number includes 16 who are registered to sell bottled milk only.						

Samples of milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors for the following purposes.

Examination for Tubercle Bacilli	...	8 samples.
Pasteurised Milk for Bacteriological count	9	„

### SHOPS ACT.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also designated as Shops Act Inspector.

His work in connection with Shops and Offices had to be curtailed owing to pressure of housing work during the year.

The total number of visits made was 76.

Under Section 10 of the Shops Act 1934 (sanitary arrangements in shops), notices were issued relating to 2 contraventions, and these were all subsequently remedied, the number of visits for this purpose being 7.

#### **Offices.**

Twenty inspections were made and the necessary improvements were carried out as a result of these inspections.

#### **Schools.**

The annual sanitary survey of schools was carried out during the Whitsuntide holidays.

### **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

Visits or observations in connection with smoke abatement numbered 29 during the year.

### **CAMPING SITES.**

Visits and inspections to the number of 65 were made for the general control and supervision of caravan and similar temporary encampments.

### **SWIMMING BATHS.**

The Public Swimming Baths have been commandeered by the Government.

The public, and especially school children, have been deprived of a popular and healthy form of recreation and training which is much deplored in view of the use to which the building has been put.

If the Council had possessed an open-air swimming bath, which has been advocated for many years, the loss of the indoor Baths would not have been so serious or felt so acutely.

Besides the Swimming Baths the Slipper Baths in the same building are no longer available to the public and for many evacuees in the town and temporary lodgers, useful facilities for cleanliness have thus been cut off.

Arrangements have been made whereby males can obtain a slipper bath on payment at the Men's Municipal Hostel and from September, 1940, to the end of the year, 458 baths were taken.

### **HOUSING.**

#### **Building Progress during 1940.**

1. Houses erected by Local Authority	...	...	Nil
2. Houses erected by Private Enterprise	...	...	4

Apart from routine inspections or attention given to nuisances or complaints, activities in Housing matters have had to cease.

A few houses subject to a demolition order, but not demolished at the outbreak of war, have been re-opened and re-let to those coming into the town who have been rendered homeless by enemy action. The terms of re-letting are closely supervised and strictly enforced.

#### **Report of the Housing Inspector.**

The position of Housing Inspector appointed to supervise all Council houses is vacant.

It has been decided, owing to the war, not to replace this officer and that the work should be undertaken by the Chief Sanitary Inspector whose duties in connection with Slum Clearance work have been curtailed.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

Total number of visits and inspections as detailed below	1932
--	------

This number is made up as follows :—

Visits investigating complaints of disrepair, supervising repairs and inspecting completed work	...	...	1339
---	-----	-----	------

**House Inspections.**

Routine inspections of occupied Corporation houses (other than detailed below) ... ..	41
Inspections and visits <i>re</i> the transfer of families to larger type houses or different Estates ... ..	9
Inspection of houses <i>re</i> the supply of materials for internal decoration ... ..	173
Inspection of vacated Corporation houses ... ..	20
Inspections and visits in respect of Application for a Corporation house ... ..	15

**Verminous Houses.**

Inspection of houses on complaint of vermin infestation and visits for fumigation ... ..	4
Inspection of houses on complaint of rats ... ..	5
Inspection of houses on complaint of cockroaches and crickets, ants, etc. ... ..	7

**Contravention of Conditions of Letting.**

Visits in connection with the keeping of pigeons ...	2
„ „ „ „ poultry ...	2
„ <i>re</i> condition of gardens and hedges ... ..	34
„ <i>re</i> the erection of new/or demolition of old sheds	3
„ <i>re</i> defective or choked drains ... ..	52
Miscellaneous visits ... ..	226
	<hr/>
Total	1932
	<hr/>

**Municipal Hostel for Men.**

Mr. E. A. Andrews (Superintendent) supplies the following figures relating to the admissions to Derfald House Hostel for the year 1940, with those of 1938 and 1939 for comparison.

	1938	1939	1940
Number of Beds ... ..	38	39	38
Weekly lodgers (6/-) ... ..	936	858	1,206
Daily lodgers (1/-) ... ..	4,993	3,454	2,903
Daily average ... ..	31	26	31
Requested to leave for breach of rules	12	4	5
Cases of Infectious disease ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil

The increase in the number of weekly lodgers with a corresponding decrease of casual lodgers is due to the number of men engaged on constructional work in the neighbourhood, who have been drafted into this area for such work.

The work at the Hostel has been increased not only by attendance of the public for slipper baths as mentioned under the section headed "Swimming Baths," but in the working of the Steam Disinfector which has catered for Army and A.R.P. Services blankets, etc., and for bedding from Rest Centres as well as bedding from cases of Scabies.

### Housing Statistics.

#### 1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	201
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	4610
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses [included under sub-head (1) above] which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	201

#### 2.—Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	181
--	-----

### 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

#### A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |  |        |     |
|--|--------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs  | ...    | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— |        |     |
| (a) By owners  | ... .. | Nil |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners  | ...    | Nil |

#### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- |  |        |     |
|--|--------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—        |        |     |
| (a) By owners  | ... .. | Nil |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners  | ...    | Nil |

#### C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made   | ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Sub-Section (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 | ...    | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders  | ... .. | 16  |

#### D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... .. | Nil |

**4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.**

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	108
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	112
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	708
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	6
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	43
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

As a result of application by the Council under Section 64 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, the Minister of Health approved of the Borough of Shrewsbury remaining as a Food and Drug Authority.

**Milk Supply.**

The work in connection with the milk supply of the town may be summarised as follows :—

**Inspection of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.**

The Sanitary Inspectors made 90 visits or inspections as follows :—

Inspection of Milkshops and Dairies ... ..	27
„ „ Cowsheds and Dairy Farms ... ..	46
Street work in connection with Milk and Dairies	
Acts or Orders ... ..	17

Verbal warnings or advice were given in 14 cases, resulting in remedy of the condition to which attention had been drawn.

### Milk Sampling.

Samples of milk were taken for the purpose of (a) Chemical analysis, (b) Examination for Tubercle bacilli, (c) Bacteriological examination in the case of Designated milks, the results being set out under their respective headings.

### Chemical Analysis.

The Sampling Officer took 58 samples of milk during the year, the results being set out in the following table.

**Food and Drugs Acts—Analyses of Milk Samples.**

NUMBER OF SAMPLES		Result of Analysis	Remarks on samples returned as "Not genuine"
Formal	Informal		
57	1	Formal { 49 genuine 8 not genuine	1. Solids not Fat 8.40%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) 0.545 C. No evidence of added water.  2. Solids not Fat 8.30%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) 0.548 C. No evidence of added water.  3. Solids not Fat 8.30%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) 0.540 C. No evidence of added water.  4. Deficient of 5% Fat. Re-sampled and found Genuine.  5. Deficient of 5% Fat. Re-sampled and found Genuine.  6. Deficient of 5% Fat. Re-sampled and found Genuine.  7. Deficient of 3% Fat. Re-sampled and found Genuine.  8. Solids not Fat 8.1%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) 0.530 C.
		Informal 1 genuine.	

**Public Abattoir.**

The work carried on at the Public Abattoir conducted by the whole-time Superintendent, who is a qualified Meat Inspector and inspects all slaughtered animals, is set out in the accompanying tables.

**Public Abattoir.****CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.**

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	5345	1250	2458	36908	10228
Number inspected ... ..	5345	1250	2458	36908	10228
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis :</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	20	20	73	100
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	243	364	9	930	847
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis	4.60	30.72	1.14	2.72	9.26
<b>Tuberculosis only : ...</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	9	35	—	—	27
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	77	228	3	—	503
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis ... ..	1.61	21.04	0.12	—	5.18

Diseased and unsound conditions found in the animals dealt with, caused the detention and surrender for destruction of a total weight in carcasses and offal of 41 tons, 1 cwt., 20 lbs., details of which are given in the following table.

	Carcasses.	Offal.	Total in lbs.
Beef ... .. lbs.	36014	19217	55231
Veal ... .. „	911	149	1060
Mutton and Lamb ... .. „	2713	1921	4634
Pork ... .. „	16002	15045	31047

**Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928, Food and Drugs Act 1938,  
and Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations  
1925 to 1939.**

The following 48 samples of Food and Drugs were taken.  
All were reported on as genuine and free from foreign ingredients.

Numbers indicate number of samples. F = Formal sample,  
Inf. = Informal sample.

Tapioca (2 F) ; Self-raising Flour (2 F) ; Cheese (3 F) ; Cocoa  
(1 F) ; Sausages (3 F, 1 Inf) ; Condensed Milk (2 Inf) ; Malt  
Vinegar (4 F) ; Lard (5 F) ; Butter (5 F) ; Coffee (2 Inf) ; Plain  
Flour (1 F) ; Cream (5 Inf) ; White Pepper (2 Inf) ; Mustard  
(2 Inf) ; Olive Oil (2 F, 1 Inf) ; Aspirin (1 Inf) ; Camphorated Oil  
(1 Inf) ; Pure Borax (1 Inf) ; Glauber Salts (1 Inf) ; Castor Oil (1 F).

The following foodstuffs other than meat, being unfit for  
human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

Fish	...	...	...	805½ lbs.
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	154
Bacon	...	...	...	103 lbs.
Cooked foods	...	...	...	23¼ lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	270 lbs.
Eggs	...	...	...	360
Tinned foods	...	...	...	114 tins.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND  
OTHER DISEASES.**

Despite the overcrowding of the town as a result of war  
immigration there was no large scale outbreak of any infectious  
disease, nor was the incidence of any infection raised unduly except  
in the case of Diphtheria.

**Scarlet Fever.** There were 77 notified cases compared with 106  
cases in the previous year.

Of the 77 notified cases, 71 were removed to the Isolation  
Hospital. There were no deaths.

**Diphtheria.** There were 105 notified cases compared with 43 and 45 in the previous years respectively.

There were 5 deaths.

The immunisation of children against Diphtheria is proceeding more regularly now that Government broadcasts periodically supplement local propaganda efforts.

Discrimination or judgment has to be used at times to decide whether an applicant for immunisation is eligible under the Local Authority's Scheme at the cost of the ratepayers or under the Government's Scheme at the Government's expense for the cost of the material used.

All children immunised under either scheme are Schick tested subsequent to immunisation.

The following figures show the work done during the year.

	Pre Schick Tests		Immunisations	Post Schick Tests	
	Positive	Negative		Positive	Negative
Pre-School Children	—	—	270	5	193
School Children	152	30	407	21	282

Of those cases immunised and subsequently Schick tested 95% were shown to be protected.

Eight children who had been previously immunised contracted mild Diphtheria, but all made an early recovery. Of these eight children 5 had been Schick tested and were Schick Negative, the remainder had failed to be Schick tested.

**Enteric Fever.** There were 7 cases of Enteric Fever (Typhoid) and 1 case of Paratyphoid B. Fever.

The 7 cases of Typhoid consisted of a family of 6 and the other a nurse who nursed them. The source of the infection was located.

**Measles.** This disease became notifiable by doctors under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, 1939.

The Government Regulation making Measles a notifiable disease follows the lines taken in 1916 during the Great War, except that then parents, guardians or doctors had the duty of notifying cases, whereas now it is only doctors who should notify.

The Government may have very good reasons for issuing these Regulations, though they are not very apparent to local administration. It might be described as a waste of public money for the following reasons.

1. Notification gives no true picture of the incidence of Measles, seeing that many parents do not call in a doctor for this disease.
2. The infectivity of Measles is greatest some days before the rash appears or before it is diagnosable. So called control among the general public is largely theoretical or a figment of the imagination.
3. If it were controllable in peace time which it is not, it is much less so in war time with overcrowding of houses and with staffs otherwise busily engaged with other work.
4. Doctors are paid 1/- for each notification. Notifications are sometimes received in batches relating to cases diagnosed several days previously and are, therefore, useless in any case except for statistical purposes.

The number of notifications received from doctors was 284, whereas from Head Teachers relating to elementary school children 149 cases were notified. The majority of these 149 cases are probably included in the 284 notifications by doctors, but on the other hand there were cases notified neither by doctors nor teachers.

There were no deaths from Measles during the year.

**Whooping Cough.** This is now a notifiable disease. The number of cases notified was 38.

There were no deaths.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.** In view of the greatly increased prevalence of this disease owing to war conditions throughout the country, it is fortunate that Shrewsbury has not experienced as many cases as might have been expected. It is more than fortunate that the treatment of this disease by the new drug M. & B 693, or other similar preparations was available to meet this scourge. Whereas in the last war the case fatality from this disease was in the neighbourhood of 70%, it has now been reduced to between 10% and 20%.

There were 24 notifications of Cerebro-Spinal Fever in which the diagnosis was subsequently confirmed.

Of the 24 cases, however, only 14 were Shrewsbury cases (Civilian 12, Military 2), whereas the 10 others were sent in to Shrewsbury from outside areas for diagnosis or treatment at the Royal Salop Infirmary or Private Nursing Homes.

There were 4 deaths from this disease.

Of other notifiable diseases there were 8 cases of Erysipelas, 39 cases of Primary Pneumonia and 10 of Influenzal Pneumonia, 1 case of Acute Poliomyelitis and 2 of Malaria (not primary attacks).

There were no cases of Dysentery or Smallpox.

Monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases Notified 1940  
(Not including Tuberculosis).

MONTH	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia	Enteric Fever	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Acute Poliomyelitis	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Malaria	Measles	Whooping Cough
			Prim-ary	Influ-enzal									
Jan.	1	4	6	1	1	—	4	5	—	4	1	15	1
Feb.	1	—	2	7	1	—	4	12	—	5	1	65	—
March	1	—	3	2	6	—	17	8	—	7	—	58	—
April	1	—	—	—	2	—	10	15	—	2	—	2	—
May	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	4	—	4	—	6	1
June	—	4	12	—	1	1	4	8	—	1	—	12	—
July	—	1	3	—	—	—	8	10	—	—	—	24	2
Aug.	—	1	6	—	1	—	—	13	—	—	—	65	—
Sept.	—	1	—	—	3	7	3	14	—	—	—	10	3
Oct.	2	—	3	—	1	—	10	5	1	—	—	8	4
Nov.	2	—	3	—	1	—	5	8	—	1	—	14	6
Dec.	—	1	1	—	1	—	4	3	—	—	—	5	21
Totals	8	12	39	10	18	8	77	105	1	24	2	284	38

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1940

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED													Number of Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years													
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & upwards		
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	105	...	...	...	3	4	37	37	6	14	2	1	1	...	101
Erysipelas ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	3	...	2
Scarlet Fever ...	77	1	5	5	2	30	15	5	11	2	1	...	...	...	71
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3	...	...	1	...	...	7
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	3	...	...	...	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia, Acute Primary ...	39	...	...	...	1	10	1	2	6	5	10	...	...	...	...
Do. Acute Influenzal ...	10	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	3	3	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	24	3	1	...	3	2	...	3	1	8	2	1	...	7	24
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	284	7	10	14	9	10	108	14	52	56	3	1	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	38	6	3	4	4	4	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	626	30	16	27	24	23	204	72	69	112	21	21	7	12	225

**MONKMOOR ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**

There are 60 beds at the Isolation Hospital itself, and, in two annexes during the war emergency period, namely at Monkmoor Hall and Underdale Hospital, there are 24 and 16 beds respectively, giving a total of 100 beds.

**Cases admitted.** Patients are admitted from the area of the Joint Hospital Board (Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham Rural District) and from the Counties of Salop, Montgomery and Radnor.

Military cases stationed in all the above areas are also admitted.

The total number of cases admitted during the year was 611, compared with 347 and 418 in the previous years respectively.

It was the heaviest year's work yet experienced, and the two outstanding features were (*a*) the increased proportion of adult patients compared with peace time conditions, (*b*) the treatment of cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

To cope with the number of admissions, Monkmoor Hall was opened on September 29th for the treatment of all Scarlet Fever patients. It has not been necessary to open up Underdale Hospital so far.

The respective number of admissions from the under-mentioned areas was as follows:—

			cases.
Borough of Shrewsbury	...	...	182
Atcham Rural District	...	...	57
County of Salop	...	...	181
County of Montgomery	...	...	54
County of Radnor	...	...	20
Military cases (all areas)	...	...	117

The diseases for which patients were admitted and the respective number of patients for each disease may be summarised as follows:—

			cases.
*Scarlet Fever	...	...	204
*Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	97
*Typhoid Fever	...	...	22
*Measles	...	...	8
Erysipelas	...	...	3
Vincent's Angina	...	...	1

				cases
*Diphtheria	...	...	...	237
*German Measles	...	...	...	26
*Paratyphoid Fever		...	...	5
*Whooping Cough		...	...	4
*Bacillary Dysentery		...	...	2
Mumps	...	...	...	1
Pemphigus	...	...	...	1

\*See subsequent heading "Revised Diagnosis."

The areas from which patients were sent together with the disease for which they were admitted are given in the following table.

LOCALITY	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Measles	German Measles	Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Vincent's Angina	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Mumps	Pemphigus
SHREWSBURY	68	104	2	2	—	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—
Atcham Rural District	7	43	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
County of Salop	95	23	46	1	—	10	1	—	1	3	—	1	—
County of Montgomery	4	46	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
County of Radnor	10	5	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military cases (all areas)	20	16	39	2	26	10	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
Totals	204	237	97	8	26	22	5	3	1	4	2	1	1

**Revised Diagnosis.** Of the 611 patients admitted, 77 or 11% after due observation were found to be suffering from conditions other than those for which admitted.

Thirteen cases sent in as Scarlet Fever were re-diagnosed as German Measles (6 cases), Measles (2 cases), Tonsillitis, Whooping Cough, Abscess of neck, Vaccination, and Erythema of unknown origin.

Sixteen cases sent in as Diphtheria were re-diagnosed as Tonsillitis (8 cases), Vincent's Angina (5 cases), Pneumonia (2 cases), Septic Parotitis and Septic abdominal wound.

Thirty-six cases sent in as Cerebro-Spinal Fever were re-diagnosed as Streptococcal Meningitis (3 cases), Tuberculous Meningitis (3 cases), Pneumococcal Meningitis (1 case), Sub-arachnoid Haemorrhage (2 cases), Cerebral Haemorrhage (1 case), Vaccination Encephalitis (3 cases), Influenza (4 cases), Pharyngitis (3 cases), Bronchitis (3 cases), Cephalgia (2 cases), Rheumatism, Tonsillitis, Measles, Gastritis, Sinusitis, Pneumonia, Fibrositis, Constipation, Coryza, and no defined disease (2 cases).

Other diseases re-diagnosed were as follows :—

Two cases of Whooping Cough were cases of Bronchitis.

One case of German Measles was a case of Rheumatism.

„ „ Measles was a case of Pneumonia.

„ „ Dysentery was a case of Nil disease.

„ „ Paratyphoid Fever was a case of Bacillus Aertryck food poisoning.

Five cases of Typhoid Fever were cases of Constipation, Fibrositis, Streptococcal Septicaemia, Gastro-Enteritis and Pneumonia respectively.

### **Treatment.**

**Scarlet Fever.** There was one death among the 191 definite cases of Scarlet Fever.

Sulphonamide derivatives were used in certain cases for treatment purposes, but no dramatic results were obtained comparable to those in which the disease is of a more generalised nature.

**Diphtheria.** Of the 221 true cases of Diphtheria, 15 died, giving a case mortality of 7%.

Among these 221 cases were at least 12 children who had been completely or partially immunised previously. All of them recovered and none suffered any serious complications.

**Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.** Twenty-two cases of Typhoid Fever and 5 cases of Paratyphoid Fever were treated. There were 2 Typhoid deaths.

At one period, owing to an outbreak of Typhoid Fever in the County of Salop, 13 patients were under treatment at the same time. The majority of this group of patients were military cases, and the strain on the Hospital nursing staff was much eased by the kind provision of nursing orderlies by the R A.M.C.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.** When this endemic disease assumes epidemic proportions it is to be expected that doctors on the look-out for the disease promptly send into Hospital cases that are diagnosed or suspect.

It is no surprise nor any reflection on diagnostic skill when of the 97 cases sent in 36 were found not to be suffering from this disease.

There were, therefore, 61 true cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, of whom 12 died, giving a case mortality of 20%.

All those who died were either late cases, severe fulminating cases or actually moribund on arrival at the Hospital and received no treatment, being at the point of death. Seven of the twelve deaths died 5 minutes, half-an-hour,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours, 4 hours, 5 hours, 7 hours and 9 hours respectively after admission, the remaining five deaths all occurring within 1, 2 or 3 days of admission.

The technique of treatment which had been found to give good results has remained unaltered as a result of still further experience, and it is one of the most gratifying experiences in the whole realm of medicine or surgery that a patient seriously ill

with a grave disease can, with proper and adequate treatment, respond so comparatively quickly and return to normal health, except those fulminating cases for whom no treatment as yet can effect a cure.

Briefly it may be stated that (1) as a rule only one lumbar puncture is performed for diagnostic purposes or relief of pressure, (2) early and rapid concentration of the drugs used has been ensured by intravenous or intramuscular injection, (3) the average adult dosage of M & B 693 or similar compounds has been 30 grammes during the period of treatment, (4) Anti-meningococcal serum is not used as a routine, but only occasionally as an adjunct in very severe cases.

### **Surgical Operations.**

The following operations were performed by the visiting Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist or other surgeons.

Tracheotomy	...	...	...	2 cases.
Mastoidectomy	...	...	...	1 case.
Appendix abscess	...	...	...	1 case.

### **Return Cases and Cross Infection.**

There were 2 return cases in respect of Diphtheria, giving a return case rate of 0.9%.

There were 5 return cases in respect of Scarlet Fever, giving a return case rate of 2.6% compared with 0.5%, 2.3% and 1.9% in the previous years respectively.

In a year when the Hospital beds were so fully occupied and when ventilation at night time is badly obstructed by necessary black-out precautions, the amount of cross infection was small.

One Scarlet Fever patient contracted German Measles from a nurse who happened to be incubating the disease.

Four Scarlet Fever patients contracted Measles from a Scarlet Fever patient who was incubating Measles on admission.

One Diphtheria patient contracted Scarlet Fever.

### Health of Staff.

Despite a year of heavy strain on the Matron and Nursing staff, all of whom gave most excellent service, their health was good, and only one nurse contracted an infectious disease, namely German Measles.

A laundry woman contracted Typhoid Fever.

The following preventive measures were carried out during the year among the nursing or domestic staff.

Schick Test	...	...	...	...	8 cases.
Diphtheria immunisation	...	...	...	...	1 case.
Dick Test	...	...	...	...	9 cases.
Scarlet Fever immunisation	...	...	...	...	1 case.
Anti Typhoid-Paratyphoid inoculation					11 cases.

### Bacteriological Work.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory established by the Medical Research Council at Wrekin College, Wellington, has been of great value, and the help and close co-operation given by Dr. R. Ewart Jones, especially in connection with Typhoid and Cerebro-Spinal Fever cases, has been much appreciated.

Throat swabs from Diphtheria and other patients are cultured and examined in the Laboratory at the Health Centre, and the careful and accurate work done by Mr. Nicholas, the Laboratory assistant, who examined 2263 swabs from the Hospital, is worthy of special commendation.

### Deaths.

There were 34 deaths among the 611 patients, 15 from Diphtheria, 12 from Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 2 from Typhoid Fever, 2 from Tuberculous Meningitis, and one case each from Scarlet Fever, Pneumococcal Meningitis and Sub-Arachnoid Haemorrhage.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The Salop County Council administer the Tuberculosis service, but close co-operation is maintained chiefly in connection with disinfection of rooms occupied by infectious patients or in re-housing those whose housing conditions are unsatisfactory.

#### Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 ... ..	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	1
5—15 ... ..	—	—	2	4	—	—	1	—
15—25 ... ..	2	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
25—35 ... ..	6	4	1	1	1	1	—	—
35—45 ... ..	7	1	—	—	3	—	—	2
45—55 ... ..	3	1	—	2	3	1	—	—
55—65 ... ..	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	19	6	5	11	10	3	2	3

Of the 18 deaths from Tuberculosis, 2 or 11%, were not notified before death.

The Phthisis (Respiratory or Pulmonary Tuberculosis) death rate for the year was 0.31 per 1,000 population compared with 0.42 in the previous year.

#### Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the above Regulations.

#### Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No cause for action.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

The following work was carried out during the year in the Laboratory at the Health Centre.

		Number	Positive	Negative
Swabs for	From {	Isolation Hospital	2263	381
Diphtheria		School cases and		1882
Bacilli		contacts	519	46
		Local Doctors	437	74
Swabs for Vincent's Angina organisms			4	1
				3

The undermentioned specimens from the Borough, and paid for under the County Council Scheme, were sent to the University of Birmingham for examination.

			Positive	Negative
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	...	...	7	33
Sputum for Tubercle Bacillus	...	...	6	107
Widal Test	...	...	3	4
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	1	—

### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

A summary of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors in connection with infectious disease, disinfection and disinfestation work is as follows :—

Visits made in connection with Infectious disease	...	258			
Disinfection	Tuberculosis	...	...	...	18
carried out	{	Scarlet fever	...	...	9
after		Diphtheria	...	...	2
Council houses treated for Bug Infestation	...	4			
Other houses treated for Bug Infestation under					
Inspectors' supervision	...	...	...	10	
Disinfectant supplied for Infectious disease purposes				70	

The methods used and described in the Report for 1936 for eradication of bugs were continued.

# MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

## Visits of Health Visitors.

	Ante-Natal Visits	Under 1 year		1—5 Years Visits	Infant Death Enquiries	Still-birth Enquiries	Infant Life Protection Visits	Totals
		First Visits	Return Visits					
January	48	49	136	334	5	—	3	575
February	58	44	113	400	2	1	7	625
March	78	52	164	445	4	1	3	747
April	74	46	160	412	1	—	5	698
May	59	63	173	354	—	1	3	653
June	49	64	144	304	2	—	2	565
July	53	38	154	378	1	1	2	627
August	44	59	127	400	—	—	8	638
September	54	70	117	259	1	—	7	508
October	55	33	188	365	—	—	3	644
November	69	55	205	420	—	—	3	752
December	19	26	60	142	1	—	3	251
Total	660	599	1741	4213	17	4	49	7283

## WELFARE CENTRES.

		Under 1 year		1—5 years		Expectant Mothers	
		Health Centre	White House	Health Centre	White House	Health Centre	White House
New Cases	Borough	467		263		154	
	County	14		9		—	
Total Attendances of Old and New Cases		2361	2785	3146	2983	115	234
		5146		6129		349	

The pressure of work at Welfare Centres which cater for residents, County cases and evacuees, official or otherwise, has been maintained.

A feature of the year's work has been the effort to persuade mothers of all babies reaching the age of 1 year to consent to Diphtheria immunisation and there has been a ready response.

The work of the Welfare Centres could not be carried on without the regular help of voluntary ladies, to whom thanks and appreciation are extended.

The amount of work done at each session may be gauged from the following average numbers.

	Health Centre	White House
Average attendance of Mothers each afternoon	43	45
„ „ Children each afternoon	52	57
„ number of children medically examined	26	30

(The above average numbers include mothers and children resident outside the Borough).

Other activities may be summarised as follows :—

Number of Mothers who received Dental treatment ...	54
„ Children who received Dental treatment ...	51
„ Dentures supplied to expectant or nursing mothers ... ..	6
„ Children referred to Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital ... ..	30
„ Children referred to Cripple Care Centre ...	12
„ Home Helps provided ... ..	8

	Health Centre	White House
Number of Children treated at Minor Ailment Clinics ... ..	88	119
„ Children admitted to Orthopaedic Hospital		4
„ Children under 5 years receiving Free Milk		118
„ Expectant Mothers receiving Free Milk		6
„ Nursing Mothers receiving Free Milk		31
„ gallons of milk supplied ... ..		1895
„ lbs. of dried milk supplied ... ..		743

**Ante-Natal Clinic.**

The following figures show the work that has been done :

Number of sessions held	...	...	...	...	47
Number of patients examined :	Ante-Natally	*286	}	298	
	Post-Natally	12			
Total number of attendances	...	...	...	*625	

\*8 and 18 respectively of these numbers refer to women resident outside the Borough.

Of the 263 new Borough patients examined, the reference of the patients to the Ante-Natal Clinic was brought about as follows :—

<i>By whom referred</i>	<i>For Ante-Natal Examination</i>	<i>For Post-Natal Examination</i>
Doctors ... ..	8	—
Midwives ... ..	21	2
Health Visitors ... ..	91	7
Own Initiative ... ..	131	3

Of the 278 women examined Ante-Natally, 181 were known to have been confined during the year, and the results of the confinements were as follows :—

Number of Live Births	...	...	...	...	174
„ Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	3
„ Miscarriages and Abortions	...	...	...	...	4
No record of birth ( <i>e.g.</i> left town, etc.)	...	...	...	...	15
Not yet confined	...	...	...	...	82
Confinements at own home	...	...	...	...	105
„ Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	76
Deaths as a result of or following confinement	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Maternity Beds.**

Beds for normal confinements are provided at the County Council Hospital.

Ante-Natal cases for observation or treatment are also admitted when required.

The number of confinements of Shrewsbury women at the County Council Hospital during the year was 115.

### Maternal Mortality and Morbidity.

Cases of abnormal or difficult labour are admitted to the Maternity Department at the Royal Salop Infirmary.

The following brief particulars are recorded.

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified	...	...	...	18
" " " removed to Hospital	...			7
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1
Deaths from other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	1
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	2.8

The services of the Council's Obstetric Consultant was required on 1 occasion.

There were no consultations held in respect of Puerperal Pyrexia.

The Emergency Unit was not operated during the year.

### INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The three Health Visitors act as Infant Life Protection Visitors.

In the majority of cases foster children are brought to the Welfare Centres as well as being supervised in their homes.

The number of persons receiving children for reward on the register at the end of the year was 22.

The number of children on the register at the same date was 27.



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

R E P O R T

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 4 0

A. D. SYMONS, M.D., D.P.H.

Number of Schools.	Number of Departments.	Accommodation.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance.
14	23	5379	3998	86.9

### STAFF.

The staff establishment is the same as it was in peace time, and is capable of dealing with the extra work involved by official and unofficial evacuees.

### MEDICAL INSPECTION. (Arrangements and Methods).

There has been no alteration as a result of the outbreak of war in the working of the School Medical Service, the evacuees having been absorbed into the general system and dealt with similarly to Shrewsbury children.

### FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

#### Nutrition.

The classification of the state of nutrition as assessed at routine medical inspections of 5, 8, and 12 year old children combined, is set out in the following table with previous years for comparison.

Nutritional Group.	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
A (Excellent)	15.9	15.9	15.5	20.5	16.0	17.6
B (Normal) ...	69.8	64.5	66.5	64.0	69.0	64.8
C (Slightly Sub-normal)	13.3	18.1	16.5	14.7	14.7	16.8
D (Bad) ...	0.9	1.4	1.5	0.8	0.3	0.8

#### Uncleanliness.

Each school was visited each term by the School Nurse for a cleanliness inspection, the total number of children inspected at these visits being 11,439.

The following table summarises the findings of the inspections of Shrewsbury children in 1940 and for the four previous years.

### Percentage of Verminous Children.

		1st Term.	2nd Term.	3rd Term.
1936	...	3.7	3.1	3.3
1937	...	2.8	2.5	3.1
1938	...	2.6	2.8	2.0
1939	...	2.2	1.9	2.3
1940	...	3.2	3.3	2.7

It was found necessary to exclude from school 37 children until passed as clean.

No legal proceedings were taken under the School Attendance Bye-laws.

### MINOR AILMENTS.

**Including Skin Disease, External Eye Disease and Ear Disease.**

The following minor ailments were found at routine medical inspections at the schools or at special inspections at the School Clinics.

Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ Body	...	...	...	...	...	8
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	35
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	78
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	...	14
Minor injuries (sores, cuts, abrasions)				...	...	447
Ear Diseases (including Otorrhoea)	...	...	...	...	...	67
Eye Diseases (including Blepharitis and Conjunctivitis)						75

### TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

At routine or special inspections 8 children were found to require treatment for Adenoids or Unhealthy Tonsils or both.

Of this number 5 suffered from Unhealthy Tonsils, 1 from Adenoids, and 2 from Unhealthy Tonsils and Adenoids.

In addition 76 other children were kept under observation by means of periodic re-inspections.

Other conditions of the nose or throat, including cases of Acute Tonsillitis, were found to require treatment or exclusion from school in 388 cases.

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

No cases of Pulmonary or Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered.

### **DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.**

At School Medical Inspections 49 cases of Defective Vision and 1 case of Squint were referred for treatment ; in addition 16 cases of minor degrees of defective vision were kept under observation.

At the School Clinics or other Special Inspections 25 cases of Defective Vision and 5 cases of Squint were also referred for treatment, and 15 cases of slight defect of vision and 1 case of doubtful squint were kept under observation.

### **DENTAL DEFECTS.**

The total number of children inspected by the School Dentist during the year was 4019.

This total number was made up as follows :

Routine Inspections at Schools	...	3907
Special Inspections at Clinics	...	112

### **CRIPPLING DEFECTS.**

Defects under this heading include (1) Major Orthopaedic defects, (2) Severe Heart Disease, (3) Minor Orthopaedic defects.

The Cripple Register contains the names of 11 crippled children, there being no cases of Severe Heart Disease.

The following Crippling defects (major or minor), 25 in number, were discovered and referred for treatment during the year.

Flat foot	...	11 cases.	Scoliosis	...	2 cases.
Deformity of toes	6	„	Kyphosis	...	1 case.
Bow leg	...	3	Bad posture	...	1 „
			Deformity of foot		1 „

**VACCINATION.**

Of the 313 Infants examined during the year 186 or 59.4% had been vaccinated, compared with 54.7% in the previous year.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE.****MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

	NON-NOTIFIABLE			NOTIFIABLE			
	German Measles	Mumps	Chicken Pox	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria
Jan.	—	26	2	17	—	2	2
Feb.	4	31	—	10	—	1	9
Mar.	32	69	—	10	—	8	2
April	158	44	19	5	—	5	6
May	122	1	42	2	1	5	4
June	54	4	18	18	—	3	5
July	10	9	56	67	—	5	7
Aug.	Schools Closed			43	—	—	8
Sept.	3	1	9	11	—	1	8
Oct.	1	2	3	14	—	7	4
Nov.	—	2	4	8	5	1	5
Dec.	—	—	—	2	11	2	3
Total	384	189	153	207	17	40	63

Of the 40 cases of Scarlet Fever, 5 were diagnosed at School Clinics, and of the 63 cases of Diphtheria, 17 were also diagnosed at School Clinics.

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

The number of immunisations among school children has been as follows :

Year.	Number.
1936	127
1937	135
1938	99
1939	712
1940	407

All children over the age of 12 years are Schick tested to discover whether they are immune or otherwise, and immunisation, of course, is only proceeded with in those who are Schick Positive, *i.e.* non-immune.

Preliminary Schick tests were thus performed on 182 children, and the results were :—

Schick Positive (non-immune)	152
Schick Negative (immune) ...	30

### **FOLLOWING UP.**

The work of the School Nurses during the year may be summarised as follows :

Attendances of children for treatment at Minor Ailment Centres	11,555
" Following-up " home visits	432
Number of children examined at Head Inspections	11,439
Visits to homes <i>re</i> Absentees from School	90
Visits to Schools with Medical Officer, Dentist, etc.	219

### **MEDICAL TREATMENT.**

#### **School Clinics and Minor Ailment Centres.**

A daily School Clinic is held at the Health Centre and the White House, at which the School Medical Officer and the Assistant School Medical Officer attend respectively.

In addition Minor Ailment Centres, each staffed by a Nurse, are held daily at the Health Centre, the White House and Monk-moor Senior School.

The work carried out by the Nurses at their respective Centres was as follows :

Defect.				Health Centre.	White House.	Monkmoor School.
Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	...	1	2	—
Ringworm of Body	...	...	...	4	4	—
Scabies	...	...	...	26	9	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	29	58	1
Other skin complaints	...	...	...	15	2	1
Minor Eye Defects	...	...	...	76	32	90
Minor Ear Defects	...	...	...	49	29	19
Miscellaneous (Sores, Cuts, etc.)	...	...	...	645	323	641
				<hr/> 845	<hr/> 459	<hr/> 752
				<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Attendances made for treatment of  
above defects      ...      ...

3514      3814      4227

### TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

Treatment is carried out at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital under the Authority's Scheme.

Under this Scheme 18 children, compared with 32 in the previous year, underwent operation (See Table III, Group III, at end of Report).

### TUBERCULOSIS.

All definite or suspected cases of Pulmonary or Glandular Tuberculosis are referred to the County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary, where they are treated or kept under observation by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Cases of Bone or Joint Tuberculosis are referred to the Cripple Care Centre, whence they are admitted to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, if necessary, under the County Council Scheme.

The following table gives the diagnosis and disposal of cases referred to or primarily examined at the County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year.

Number of children who attended during 1940	...	67
New cases examined	... ..	41
Diagnosis of New Cases	<div> <div>{</div> <div> Definite Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... Nil  Definite Non-Pulmonary „ ... 11  Suspected cases ... .. 3  Non-Tubercular cases ... .. 27 </div> </div>	
Number of cases admitted to Sanatorium during 1940		Nil
Number of cases treated at Orthopaedic Hospital for Bone or Joint Tuberculosis during 1940	...	2

### SKIN DISEASE.

Certain contagious skin diseases such as Ringworm, Scabies and Impetigo received special treatment at Minor Ailment Centres.

The work done in respect of these particular complaints was as follows.

Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	3 cases.
Ringworm of Body	...	...	8 „
Scabies	...	...	35 „
Impetigo	...	...	88 „
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	18 „

### VISION.

Defects of Vision, including Squint, are dealt with at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital under the Authority's Scheme.

The number of children referred for treatment or periodic re-test of vision was 280, with the following results.

Number of children examined at Hospital	...	...	280
Prescriptions for glasses given	...	...	176
Glasses not necessary	...	...	16
Fresh glasses not prescribed	...	...	88
Glasses actually obtained	...	...	171

One case was dealt with privately, glasses being prescribed and obtained.

To this number may be added 1 case for whom glasses were prescribed in 1939, but glasses not obtained until 1940.

Of the 171 children who obtained their glasses, 144 were provided by parents and 27 wholly or partly by the Local Education Authority.

As soon as children have obtained their glasses they are sent back to the Hospital to ascertain whether the prescription has been accurately dispensed by the optician and that the frames are a proper fit.

The number of children so referred to the Hospital was 104, and of this number 4 were found to have incorrect lenses and 6 ill-fitting frames. These errors were subsequently adjusted by the optician.

### **EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.**

Ear cases received treatment either at Minor Ailment Centres or at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.

The number of children receiving treatment for Ear defects was 103 ; of these 97 were treated at Minor Ailment Centres and 6 at Hospital.

### **DENTAL TREATMENT.**

The part-time School Dentist devoted 252 sessions to treatment during the year.

The number of children whose parents accepted treatment by the School Dentist was 1456, and during the year 1437 received treatment.

Details of the work of the School Dental Service during 1940 are to be found in Table IV at the end of this Report.

The amount received from parents in 1/- fees for treatment during the year was £53 14s. 6d.

## **CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPAEDICS.**

An Orthopaedic clinic is held once a week at the Health Centre to which major and minor crippling defects may be referred for examination and treatment.

This Clinic is conducted by voluntary helpers provided by a local Cripple Care Committee in conjunction with a staff of trained nurses sent from the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital. An orthopaedic surgeon visits the Clinic at intervals when new as well as old cases are brought before him.

The number of children referred to the Cripple Care Clinic during the year was 62, of whom 34 were referred by the School Medical Department.

Nine cases were admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital.

## **PHYSICAL TRAINING.**

### **Report of the Organiser of Physical Training.**

“ Under existing War conditions it is not surprising that no definite progress in Physical Education can be reported ; indeed, even to keep the work at a pre-war standard has meant hard and enthusiastic effort on the part of the Teachers.

Various difficulties have arisen as a result of the War, the most serious being the loss of the Swimming Baths. This means that hundreds of children will not have the advantage of Swimming Instruction in their school life, and to all those who have watched with interest the increasing progress shown in this branch of physical education this is a severe disappointment.

The curtailment of the supply of suitable shoes and clothing is naturally detrimental to progress, and in addition the grant made by the Education Authority towards necessary equipment for physical training lessons is now inadequate since apparatus is becoming very costly, and much is difficult to obtain.

The loss of the Swimming Baths Hall in the winter months has retarded the progress in those schools which depended on its use for physical training lessons with portable apparatus, or for organised games and dancing.

Several school playing spaces have been taken over by the Military, so that, generally speaking, no progress in the arrangements for Organised Games can be reported.

In spite of all these difficulties and obstructions the Teachers have loyally kept up their interest in the general health of the children and have endeavoured to achieve the maximum benefit from the daily physical training lessons."

K. W. DAVEY.

### **SCHOOL BATHS.**

The Public Baths at which swimming instruction is given to school children were commandeered by the Military Authorities despite local protest, and these Baths are not now available.

### **PROVISION OF MEALS.**

Pasteurised milk in bottles of  $\frac{1}{8}$  pint are supplied to all schools taking part in the Milk in Schools Scheme.

At the end of the year approximately 3,584 children were receiving milk compared with approximately 3,050 at the same period in 1939.

The number of children receiving free milk because of subnormal or slightly subnormal nutrition was 302.

Periodic samples of the pasteurised milk supplied were sent for bacteriological examination.

Mid-day meals have been provided at Monkmoor and Harlescott schools for some time past by the voluntary efforts of the respective Head Teachers.

An extension of the provision of mid-day meals to cater for other schools will shortly take place under a scheme recently submitted to the Board of Education.

### **CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.**

1. The presence of parents at School Medical Inspections is evidence of their interest in the welfare of their children and can be summarised as follows :

<b>Medical Inspection of :</b>			<b>Percentage of Parents present :</b>
5 year old children	...		86%
8       "       "	...		77%
12       "       "	...		57%

2. The co-operation and help of the Teachers is very satisfactory and much appreciated.

3. Smooth contact between the School Attendance Officer, who is also Juvenile Employment Officer, and the School Medical Department has been maintained.

4. The Borough Police Boot and Distress Fund, which is always referred to in these Reports because of the useful work accomplished, enabled approximately 1,200 pairs of boots or shoes, as well as articles of clothing, to be issued to poor parents of school children.

The help of the N.S.P.C.C. was not asked for during the year.

### **BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.**

There are no Special Schools for the education of Defective Children in the Borough.

Cases requiring special education are sent to Special Schools elsewhere when accommodation is available for them.

#### **Blind or Partially Blind Children.**

No Blind children were maintained at Special Schools.

#### **DEAF (Including Deaf and Dumb and Partially Deaf) Children.**

One boy was maintained at the Margate Royal School for the Deaf, and one girl at the Birmingham Royal School for the Deaf.

### Epileptic Children.

No epileptic children were maintained at Special Schools.

### Mentally Defective and Backward Children.

Four girls were maintained at the Monyhull Residential School for Mental Defectives at Birmingham, 2 boys at the Mary Dendy Home, Sandlebridge, Cheshire, and 1 girl at the Ashton House Special School, Oxton, Birkenhead.

One boy was notified to the Local Control Authority under the Mental Deficiency Act 1913.

Under the scheme for the ascertainment of Defective and Backward children, 46 children were specially examined by mental tests.

The grouping of these children as a result of mental testing was as follows :

#### Number of

Children.	Degree of Retardation.	Recommended Disposal.
1	Mentally Defective	Suitable for Special School.
5	3 years or over	To be re-examined for Certification purposes.
5	2—3 years retarded	Suitable for Special Classes.
35	Under 1 year retarded	To remain in ordinary Class.

### Medical Inspection and Treatment Returns.

Year ended 31st December, 1940.

**TABLE I.**

#### MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

##### A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

##### (1) No. of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	313
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	463
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	493

Total 1269

(2) No. of other Routine Inspections ... Nil.

Grand Total 1269

##### B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 6507

**TABLE II.**

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED  
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

AGE-GROUPS	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly sub-normal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	313	41	13.1	232	74.1	38	12.1	2	0.6
Second Age-group	463	75	16.2	319	68.9	65	14.0	4	0.9
Third Age-group	493	107	21.7	271	55.0	110	22.3	5	1.0
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1269	223	17.6	822	64.8	213	16.8	11	0.8

**TABLE III.**

GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Un-  
cleanliness, for which see Table V.).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment  
during the year under the Authority's Scheme 2057

GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT  
(excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor  
Ailments—Group I.).

	NO. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint) ...	280	1	281
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) ...	8	—	8
Total ...	288	1	289
No. of Children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed ...	176	1	177
(b) Obtained ...	171	1	172

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS			
RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT		Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme (2)		
18	2	1	21

**TABLE IV.**  
**Dental Inspection and Treatment.**

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age-groups.

Age	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Number	326	359	424	442	481	549	535	407	326	58	3907

(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4019
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2212
(3) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1437
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2324
(5) Half-days devoted to :—	Inspection	17	}	Total				269
	Treatment	252						
(6) Fillings :—	Permanent Teeth	850	}	Total				866
	Temporary Teeth	16						
(7) Extractions :—	Permanent Teeth	790	}	Total				3289
	Temporary Teeth	2499						
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	426
(9) Other Operations :—	Permanent Teeth	14	}	Total				19
	Temporary Teeth	5						

**TABLE V.**  
**Verminous Conditions.**

(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	11439
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	...	...	...	259
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—							
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

**TABLE VI.****Blind and Deaf Children.**

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are **not** at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs.

	1. At a Public Elementary School	2. At an institution other than a Special School	3. At no School or Institution	4. Total not receiving suitable education
Blind Children	—	—	1 (Also M.D.)	1
Deaf Children	—	—	1	1 (Now work- ing. Age 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ yrs.)

Have the names and addresses of all the blind children included in Column 4 above been forwarded to the appropriate Authority under the Blind Persons Act, 1920? ... .. Yes

**Mentally Defective Children.**

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1940, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 ... .. 1





